

Nothing would do more to reassure the American people that the President-Elect is committed to unifying the nation than the nomination and appointment of a person to be Attorney General who has a record of championing and protecting, rather than opposing and undermining, the precious right to vote; the constitutionally guaranteed right of privacy, criminal justice reform, and support for reform of the nation's immigration system so that it is fair and humane.

Regrettably, Sen. JEFF SESSIONS of Alabama is not that person and he should not be confirmed by the Senate to be the nation's 84th Attorney General.

REVEREND PAUL MARTIN
KWIATKOWSKI

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Reverend Paul Kwiatkowski, who passed away in early December.

Rev. Kwiatkowski was known throughout Northwest Ohio for his intellect, humor, knowledge, and empathy. Ordained a priest at St. Peter Basilica in Rome in 1964, Father Kwiatkowski has dedicated his entire life to serving the people in parishes at Our Lady of Lourdes, Holy Spirit Seminary, St. James, Immaculate Conception, and St. Hedwig in Toledo, as well as St. Mary Parish in Bluffton and St. Joseph Parish in Maumee. St. Hedwig is notable as Father Kwiatkowski's great-grandfather was one of the original bricklayers of the church in 1891. He was incredibly dedicated to the parishes and the communities he served, a truth highlighted in Rev. Kwiatkowski's presence as a violinist with the Perrysburg Symphony for 45 years.

As many parents do, Rev. Kwiatkowski's parents, Ted and Evelyn, knew he was musically inclined from a young age. Few parents experience the joy of knowing their child is also inclined to serve others. When neighborhood children gathered to play, Rev. Kwiatkowski often pretended to be their priest. His dream was realized when he enrolled in seminary studies at St. Meinrad Seminary in Indiana and the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

His devotion to people and his community led him to accept a teaching position at his alma mater, Central Catholic High School, after his retirement. Father Kwiatkowski's parishioners, students, family and friends, were buoyed by the joy and fellowship he brought into their lives each and every day. For many who knew him, the first words to describe the Reverend would be "fun" and "compassionate." A man with a bright, infectious spirit, Father Kwiatkowski will be dearly missed. He was an institution unto himself in Northwest Ohio, and will long be remembered as such.

In every parish community he served, Father Paul left a neighborhood and his church property in an improved condition. Buildings were restored, streets paved, festivals established, church celebrations enhanced. He was gifted and kind.

As a fellow Polish-American, I will remember his participation every Memorial Day at the Veterans' Mass at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in To-

ledo. He arranged for an organ to be brought on site, he played the violin as his vestments blew in the soft spring breeze, he distributed communion to the gathered worshippers who were dressed so royally for the solemn occasion. Fr. Paul made each occasion beautiful and worthy of the people he served. He was an extraordinary diocese priest who cared and shepherded his flock with great love.

JAMES "BIMBO" BREWER

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the loss of a Northeast Georgian whose voice has touched tens of thousands in the Ninth District.

To the Hall County community James "Bimbo" Brewer was known as a cheerful radio personality. For many years, his personality and storytelling brought happiness and entertainment to not only those who tuned in to his show, but also to those who were close to him.

"Bimbo" was a dedicated servant to the people of Gainesville. He volunteered as deacon at his church and later joined the Hall County Sheriff's Office, where he worked as an advocate for crime victims and their families.

In that role, Bimbo walked with many Hall County citizens through the trials and heartbreak that fall on the victims of violent crimes. Reverend Bill Couch of the First Baptist Church of Gainesville said it best when he described "Bimbo" as someone who "no matter how traumatic the scene . . . was strong and dependable."

The Ninth District of Georgia will always remember this encouraging, steadfast member of our community. Mr. Speaker, I ask that we all keep his loved ones in our thoughts and prayers in the coming days, as we reflect on Bimbo's many contributions to our corner of Georgia.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. DAVID
SHULKIN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on January 11th, President-elect Donald Trump nominated Dr. David Shulkin to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dr. Shulkin has served as the undersecretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs for Health since June 2015. Having seen the inner-workings of the Department of Veterans Affairs, he is an excellent candidate to reform the department and serve the needs of our veterans.

President-elect Donald Trump said that he has "no doubt Dr. Shulkin will be able to lead the turnaround our Department of Veterans Affairs needs. His sole mandate will be to serve our veterans and restore the level of care we owe to our brave men and women in the mili-

tary. Dr. Shulkin has the experience and the vision to ensure we will meet the healthcare needs of every veteran."

I am confident in the appointment of Dr. David Shulkin and I look forward to working with him in this new role. He will continue the promotion of positive reforms by former House Veterans Affairs Chairman Jeff Miller of Florida.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

SUPPORT FOR ACA—THE STORY
OF ONE ALABAMIAN

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, More than 20 million Americans woke up today with the security of health coverage they didn't have 8 years ago. Of the Americans who stand to lose their health insurance under the GOP repeal plan, 82 percent are from working families, including 150,000 enrollees in my State of Alabama.

Despite facts, Republicans have done a remarkable job convincing the American people, even those who are on the exchanges, that the ACA only benefits people who don't work. They perpetuate the tired fallacy that ACA, Medicaid, and even Medicare recipients are living off the government without contributing to our economy.

Mr. Speaker, this brings me to a story about Hank Adcock. Hank is a life-long farmer who has been working on his family farm in Alabama for the majority of his 62 years. Back in 2015, his hands got stuck in a hay baler and he lost his right hand. Before the ACA, Hank's family hadn't had health coverage since the 1980s. His ACA policy ended up covering his entire hospital bill, which he says could have cost him his farm if he hadn't had insurance. If the farming work that Hank, his wife, Sharon, and their children have committed their lives to isn't enough to qualify as "hard work" to my Republican friends, then I suggest we let Hank and Sharon come up here to Washington while we all go down to North Alabama to trade jobs for a few days.

The ACA is far from perfect. This is why I have worked across the aisle to try to make meaningful changes to the ACA that don't compromise the law's benefits. But after 7 years of engaging in a fact-free, taxpayer-funded crusade against the ACA, the GOP should have a stellar replacement plan that we can all agree on.

Every member in this body has constituents who have insurance because of the ACA. While I understand that the law is unpopular in many districts across the country, political expediency has no place in this hallowed body, especially when the economy and American lives are at stake.

The American people deserve a Congress that will work together to fix what's wrong with the ACA and build upon what's working. We need to work towards increased access, market stabilization and cost reduction. I stand ready to work with my colleagues to achieve these goals and protect the millions of Americans who like Hank were at one time just one medical emergency away from financial ruin.